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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1912.

### Raising the Maine.

The work of raising the wreck of the battle ship Maine from its bed in the mud of Havana Harbor has been successful. The after portion of the hull, fitted with bulkheads and stripped of the weight of its heavy guns, is being slowly raised to the surface of the harbor, and will then be towed out to the deep sea and again sunk in a spot where it can possibly be no impediment to navigation.

The work of surrounding the sunken battle ship with a cofferdam, of pumping out the water and exposing the wreck to detailed and careful scrutiny, is a marine engineering feat of no mean significance. It required months of patient toil, and involved calculations upon the withholding power of the materials used in the construction of the cofferdam, that might have gone astray and brought to naught the entire work at the moment of its success. The task, however, has been fully accomplished, and in a few days more the old Maine will be hidden forever beneath the deep sea surges.

The raising of the Maine has settled the controversy waged since 1898 regarding the character and cause of the disaster. It has been settled that the battle ship was first injured by an exploding mine in the harbor, and a few moments later was torn to atoms by the explosion of the magazines on board. Divers soon after the sinking of the vessel brought up evidence to the same effect, but they were not believed by many, and it required the examination of the wreck which has now been made to satisfy the doubters and put the ancient controversy to rest.

In addition, a dangerous obstacle to navigation in Havana Harbor will be removed when the barnacle-covered hull passes out beyond the headlands of Havana Bay, and when the debris of the wreck and the cofferdam shall have been taken away.

The raising of the Maine for all these purposes was a needed work, and it has been well done by the accomplished engineers of the government engaged therein.

### Banks Must Have Surplus.

With watchful eye upon the operations of national banks throughout the country, the Comptroller of the Currency has inaugurated many needed reforms in the conduct of banks. None of them possibly means more to the safety of the people's money entrusted to them than his latest ruling that banks must have a surplus of at least 20 per cent of the capital before engaging in business, and must increase it afterward strictly according to the terms of the national banking laws.

It appears that the nation has 1,254 banks the surplus of which is less than 20 per cent of the capital, and 250 banks with no surplus at all. This condition of things is regarded by the Comptroller as dangerous from the financial point of view, and he has issued orders that it must be remedied at once. Mr. Murray ascribes this lack of surplus in the banks to over eager desire on the part of directors to pay dividends upon the capital stock.

A national bank with a substantial surplus to its credit is about as safe as a bank can be. Without such surplus it is weak, and in financial stress would go down, with loss to every stockholder. Mr. Murray holds that a bank begins business it should have a surplus to insure operating expenses in the early years and that the safety fund should be built up to a substantial basis to meet any exigency which might arise in the bank's history.

In other words, a national bank cannot be wholly used by its managers to earn dividends. It must provide a substantial guarantee of the safety of its deposits.

### Recall in Ecuador.

The populace of Guayaquil, the principal port of Ecuador, has given a significant demonstration of the recall of court decisions as practiced in that country. Conditions are not the same in Ecuador as in this country, but the burst of popular violence in Guayaquil, reversing the action of the court, illustrates pretty well what excited action might be expected to do anywhere, even where ballots are used instead of bullets.

Gen. Pedro Montero, late president of the provisional government of Ecuador, which sought to overturn the re-

ing powers at Quito, became a prisoner of war when Gen. Leonidas Plaza took the city recently at the head of the national forces. Gen. Montero was tried for sedition and treason before a court-martial over which Gen. Plaza presided. The court found the revolutionist guilty and imposed a sentence of fifteen years in the government penitentiary. The decision of the court was reached by due process of law and, under the circumstances, was mild.

But the plebiscite of Guayaquil stood outside and protested. Gen. Montero, who, a few months ago, was the popular hero of the city, had betrayed a cause and made himself obnoxious to the people. The finding of the court was not to their liking. They demanded the death of the traitor. They rushed into the court room, shot the prisoner, and took his body outside and burned it.

This, of course, is an extreme application of the principle of the recall of court decisions, but it serves to illustrate how a plebiscite may go wrong under excitement and popular heat. Under constitutional institutions, it is to be feared, the same unreasoning act of the mob might be enlisted against the righteous decisions of courts.

Some of our American progressives would do well to study this incident in Ecuador and take its lessons home and reflect upon them.

### Trouble in Mexico.

By rather a quick turning of events the Madero government in Mexico is reaping the whirlwind where it only sowed the wind. Recent dispatches from that country indicate that the uprising in Chihuahua is about as far-reaching and powerful as was the Madero rebellion six months ago. In other words, the Gomez revolution follows close upon the heels of the Madero revolution in troubled Mexico.

Madero and his followers appear to be as helpless to cope with the situation in the northern states as Diaz was last summer. The army is not to be relied upon, some of the rurales are deserting to the enemy, and the government at Mexico City can apparently only wait the development of the Gomez movement and its descent upon the capital. Madero's failure to check the Juarez mutiny in the army has shown to the world and his compatriots his weakness as ruler of the republic, whether it be due to lack of the true qualities of leadership or to difficulties inherent in Mexico which no man can overcome.

But whatever the antecedent influences at work in Mexico, the country is face to face with another revolution, which may be followed by others indefinitely. Mexico is near political chaos, and it will be only through the leadership of some such powerful man as was Diaz in his younger days that tranquillity can come again.

It is said the situation gives the President and State Department grave anxiety. It will naturally fall to the task of this nation to restore order in Mexico, if the revolutionary spirit passes into practical anarchy, much as the government and the people of the country may dread the responsibility.

It is to be hoped that the United States will not be called upon to throw a protectorate over Mexico, as it has done in Cuba and the Philippines. American ideas of statecraft do not include a general land-grabbing policy in this hemisphere. But Mexico must keep the peace through her own government, or some stronger hand will be required to guide its ship of state.

### OF INTEREST IN WASHINGTON.

From the Omaha Bee.  
The District of Columbia demands a square deal. But it has no voters to satisfy.

From the St. Louis Star.  
Gov. Stubbs is in Washington raising the Roosevelt pension, but he cannot stampede the Federal officeholders.

From the Elmer Advertiser.  
In Washington they found two mosquitoes which slept sixty million years. The breed probably originated in Binghamton.

From the Cleveland Leader.  
Silk stockings are no longer considered fashionable in Washington. How that any possible connection with the crusade of the women of Washington are waiting against high street car steps?

From the Baltimore Sun.  
Jowa's champion bread baker is in Washington to bake a complimentary loaf of bread for President Taft. It might be in order to suggest that she make it large—oh, very large!

### FEBRUARY REFLECTIONS.

From the Birmingham Leader.  
February is upon us, but it can't be meaner than January.

From the Des Moines Tribune.  
February has not as many days as January, but the days are longer.

From the Chattanooga Times.  
February's brevity is an unpleasant reminder that it is a short time between bills.

From the Atlanta Constitution.  
February is always short to the man who has many to meet on the 1st, 10th, and 15th.

From the Chicago Tribune.  
February, whose reputation is exceedingly bad, appears to be trying to live up to it.

From the Des Moines Tribune.  
According to the official prognostication sent out from Washington, February is not coming to with any kitchish capers.

Suggests a Better Way.

From the Springfield Republican.  
Why not take it for granted that every man suggested for the Presidency is a liar, a horse thief, a self-advertiser, a charlatan, a traitor to his party, an ingrate sharper than a serpent's tooth to his friends and backers, an enemy of the people, and a hater of mankind? It would save much ink shed to have this clearly understood at the outset, and go on from that point.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

**BUYER AND SELLER.**  
Observe his gait, his haughty strut, His perfect guard.  
It may be you can please him, but It will be hard.  
An air of great disdain hath he; His head is high.  
This fellow, it is plain to see, Is out to buy.  
Our man another pose assumes; Just see him now.  
A pleasant smile his face illumines. Observe his bow.  
He grins, he bows, he grins again; He hopes you're well.  
This fellow, it is very plain, Desires to sell.

**Uncle Penmanship Says:**  
The ancient Greeks would grant a man a divorce, but their laws would not permit him to marry a younger woman than the divorced wife. They were not so slow.

**Of Course They Can.**  
"But can these college girls cook?"  
"The man who says they can't is off his trolley. They can all make fudge, and some of them can make Welsh rabbits."

**February 5 in History.**  
February 5, 1485—Little Christopher Columbus makes his first important discovery; he discovers the key to the jam clew.  
February 5, 1307—William Tell goes to a turkey shoot and carries off every prize.

**NUTSHELL VERSE.**  
Servant lady,  
Rather green;  
Balky fire,  
Gasoline.

Pours the fluid,  
Travels far,  
Floral token:  
"Gladie ajar."

**His Preference.**  
"I can't pay this taxicab bill."  
"Then I'll drive you to a police station."

**The Goods.**  
"We live in exacting times."  
"Emt your wheeze."  
"One must deliver the goods, and yet not get caught with them."

**Modern Romance.**  
"Tee; I was fascinated by a golden curl."  
"And you marry the owner?"  
"No; I found I could buy a bunch of 'em for \$2."

**Hard to Break In.**  
"Haven't you been able to get an engagement?"  
"Not as yet. There are so many hum professionals cluttering up the stage that there's no chance for a talented amateur these days."

### TABLOID THOUGHTS.

From the Salt Lake News.  
Fine furs make fine girls.

From the Richmond Journal.  
Why not try the commission form of government for the State?

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
Somehow, Cleveland has never greatly felt the lack of an army post.

From the Yonkers Telegram.  
Not much chance for the ground hog to mistake the 2d of February for spring this year.

From the Detroit Free Press.  
Still, we haven't heard of the Duke of Connaught marvelling at the price of our butter and eggs.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.  
Young Theodore says his baby does not resemble its grandfather, but wait until it has grown teeth.

From the Cleveland Leader.  
These days it is difficult to tell whether the Elgin board's quotations are for butter or watches.

From the Dayton (Ohio) News.  
One-half of the world doesn't know how the other half manages to keep the furnace from going out.

From the Detroit News.  
The enormous increase in cigarette smoking in the United States gives a black eye to the old pipe with its nicotine heel.

From the Baltimore Sun.  
That man who has been on the operating table twenty-five times may be merely trying to establish a reputation as a cutup.

### RICHMOND'S INDEPENDENCE.

**City Owns and Operates Gas, Electric Lighting and Water Plants.**  
From the Boston Evening World.

Richmond is teaching wholesome lessons to other cities of the State. In municipal ownership it has been most progressive, and we therefore find it today the proprietor of its gas, electric lighting, and water systems, each of which is proving successful. There are people who argue that a municipality cannot operate to advantage an industrial enterprise; but Richmond with its three plants, Danville with its light and water, and hundreds of other cities can show that such arguments are absurd. Furthermore Richmond is forging ahead in the form of its government. Already it has taken steps to eliminate its unwieldy council, and to substitute therefor what is practically the commission plan. Yet another progressive scheme which it proposes to carry into effect at once is the abolishment of the fee system, and the substitution of straight salaries. Richmond also will adopt free school books. All these innovations it is seeking to establish at once through legislative enactment without waiting for the slow and cumbersome movement of its sister cities.

**Ambition and Its Downfall.**  
From the Detroit News.

Many a man has employed his utmost ability to reach high places, only to finish his career with a dull thud. Gen. Pedro Montero, of Ecuador, made himself the popular hero of his country, but at such a cost that the people who had applauded him shot him full of holes, then beheaded him and burned his body. Having scaled the heights and sounded the depths of human experience, what more could one man ask?

### Has an Easy Job.

From the Ohio State Journal.  
A man will draw \$10 a week as Washington correspondent of a great newspaper and not do a blessed thing but write a column every day authoritatively announcing that Col. Woodworth, while in no sense a candidate, will consent to run if the popular demand for him appears to be widespread.

**Bryan Misses Good Thing.**  
From the Chicago Irish News.

We wonder if it has ever occurred to Mr. Bryan to make a clubbing arrangement with Harper's Weekly and the Outlook.

## THE POLITICAL PROCESSION.

**By FRANCIS H. GESSNER.**  
The first eminent political caller who will be given special attention by the President on his return from Ohio to-day is Charles Nagel, of Missouri, who is also a member of the Cabinet.  
The call of Secretary Nagel to-day will be unofficial. While the President has been achieving much good for the party in Ohio, Secretary Nagel and Kansas City, meeting Republican editors of the State at a convention, and also 1,000 or so Republicans who, while not editors, are wonderfully well informed as to political conditions in their localities.  
Secretary Nagel is no novice in the real deep work of politics, and it is because of his intimate knowledge of Missouri Republican affairs that he was made a member of the Republican National Committee four years ago. During this recent trip to his State he was in touch not only with editors from every county, but with local committee chairmen—the men who will have much to do with naming the delegates to the national convention.  
An actual interview of statement was not expected from Secretary Nagel prior to the report he will make to his chief to-day, but he seemed almost eager to relate his satisfactory work in Missouri. He first made a general survey of the political and semi-political conference after reaching Washington with Solicitor General Lehmann and "Uncle Joe" Cannon. Then he discussed together, but could not have failed in a general going over of the situation after details of his trip had been handed out by the host, Secretary Nagel, without anticipating what he may say to the President to-day, indicated that the trend of things from now on in Missouri will be for the President. Representative Bartholdi was also a guest of the editorial association, and concluded in the State for a further intake of information, so that when he reaches the White House a cheerful supplementary report on Missouri may gladden the President's heart.

**Iowa's Democracy.**  
Irvin R. Pepper, the lone Democrat in Congress from Iowa, was something more than satisfied yesterday when he learned that the Democratic State leaders of Iowa, including the State committee, had talked things over at Des Moines and agreed to make no advance mention of Presidential preference.

There had been a suggestion that ambitious members of the committee might take it upon themselves to hand out a few resolutions for one or more of the Democratic candidates now in public view, but wise counsel prevailed, and the committee simply arranged for a State convention at Burlington on May 9 to select delegates to the Ballington national gathering. Mr. F. H. Pease, of Fort Dodge, who has been fighting the almost hopeless battles of Democracy in Iowa for years, will be chairman of the convention, and from now on his mail will be great in bulk, with every Presidential press bureau assailing him with literature and confidential letters.

Two years ago he was made to the gate-at-large. Oddly enough, up to the time of the State committee meeting, the agents of the candidates had not been so very active in the Iowa region, and some weeks back Harmon, of Ohio, and Wilson of New Jersey, seemed fairly well matched in the esteem of the Iowa Democrats.

Representative Pepper is another Congressional secretary who rose to be a member. He was a farmer lad in Davis County, and went through the usual routine of teaching and working his way to an education. Then he came to Washington as secretary to Representative Wade and graduated from the Washington Law School. That was only seven years ago, and it took him five years to make his way back to Congress, although he first served as prosecuting attorney. Pepper is thirty-five years old and promises much activity in politics, even if his State has a bachelor's award to the President.

Cox, of Ohio, is another House member who learned the business as a private secretary, but was later elected by the years ago with Paul Borg, the tobacco millionaire, who came from the famous old Dayton district.

**No Faith in Straw Votes.**  
Straw votes do not show the way the political wind blows, is the opinion of R. E. Williams, national committeeman of Oregon, who is here. He admits that most of the polls taken before election show a big strength for Col. Roosevelt, but says that the real pulse of the country is for Taft.

"Straw votes are all colored," said Mr. Williams. "A Western paper at the present time is sending broadcast straw ballots, and they show a tremendous Roosevelt strength. But when you go to consider that the wheat is a Roosevelt vote, and that the straw is a Roosevelt vote, you will find that the straw votes are all colored."

The whole thing is in the point of view. The straw votes do not and cannot speak for the people at large. All these straw votes may indicate a Roosevelt vote, but they do not indicate a vote cast independently at the polls will show that Mr. Taft can come through with colors flying.

### STREET CAR FACILITIES.

**Washington Herald Reader Offers Suggestion for New Route.**  
Editor The Washington Herald:

Your broadside editorial in yesterday's paper calls for intelligent thought and then determined action, if the evils of inadequate transit facilities and resulting congestion are to be alleviated.

Nowhere in the city can be found as large a section—thickly built up—without a trolley line, as that between H and U streets from Fourteenth street to Connecticut avenue. This condition of affairs overloads the lines on these last two streets, and so long as they intersect at Fourteenth and H streets, there must be congestion unless one or both can be re-routed. Now, the H street line, which runs on Sixteenth street, then down Massachusetts avenue, it would not only enable passengers to reach any point in the business section of the city by a convenient route, but would afford the most direct route from the northwest to Union Station. Sixteenth street, when extended to the District line, has a grand future, and when the Lincoln boulevard is constructed, it surely will be of the welfare of the people rather than the choice of a few artists and architects is considered—the proposed line will be one of the most beautiful, popular, and serviceable in the whole country.

Are there any objections sufficient to offset the manifest benefits?

Very truly yours,  
JAMES FARQUHAR.

Steady Spring, Md., Jan. 25, 1912.

**New Jersey Not Rejoicing.**  
From the Newark Star.

What if this State does not land a White House bidder in Jersey? It has been elected captain of the Yale swimming team.

## SOME FADS OF ROYALTY.

Queen Mary of England cares less for perfume than most of the royal ladies of Europe. The scent she uses principally is eau de Cologne, though that even sparingly. Wilhelmina of Holland also is a firm believer in the virtues of this perfume. Every morning a pint of the genuine "Vanderhorst" is used. Their article is brought to her when she takes its strength over the flame of a small lamp. The entire quantity is used in the Dutch Queen's bath, and gives her that fresh, clear skin, of which she is rightly so proud.

The young Queen of Holland never uses powder, soap, or cream of any kind on her face. She washes herself with a fluffy robin (serviette) soaked in warm water, and anything else. She spends less time over her toilet than most European queens.

During the hours set apart for toilet purposes she generally reads or chats with her intimate friends. She is very particular, however, about her dresses. She will try on one veil after another to see which is most becoming to her, and always very fastidious in her choice. And often a half dozen more pairs of gloves will be tried on before she is satisfied that the fit is perfect.

Queen Alexandra's pet extravagance also is gloves. She has beautiful hands, and takes pride in having them perfectly gloved. She rarely puts on a pair more than twice. Her favorite perfume is Price's violet, composed of amber, essence of roses, violet, jasmine, orange flowers, and lavender. It is a remarkable fact that this scent has been a favorite with British royalty since 1851.

In 1904, Queen Alexandra was presented with six drops of the most precious scent in the world—pure "attar of roses." More than 500 acres of roses were required to produce these six drops.

**Empress Augusta Victoria, of Germany,** uses a special soap made of whale fat. She is as fond of eau de Cologne as Queen Wilhelmina, and her bedchamber always is sprayed with it. As a dentifrice she uses mint water. She has no free control over her entire toilette, for, like many other things in Germany, the Kaiser supervises his wife's toilette.

The Empress has prematurely white hair, but though she wished to have it dyed, her autocratic husband refused to allow her to do so.

The Carlins of Russia has her soap especially made for her in England, but the composition of it is a state secret, and the recipe has never been divulged. No Queen spends more on perfumes than the wife of the Czar. She uses a great quantity of scent, all of which is imported from France. Her toilet table is a magnificent affair of green malachite supported on legs of solid silver. It is covered with bottles of all shapes and sizes filled with valuable scents. The Empress uses so much of her favorite scent that at Grasse, on the Riviera, hundreds of women are busily employed collecting violets. Each bottle of the perfume is sent direct to the St. Petersburg Chemical Academy, where its strength and quality are tested before being used on the royal toilet table. The rooms of the royal palaces are sprinkled several times a day with essences of jonquil, tuberose, jasmine, narcissus, and white violet. The Czar has to pay a bill of \$20,000 a year for the scents his consort uses.

**Carmen Sylva, the Queen of Roumania,** uses a lotion of herbs and plants gathered from the forest of Roumania. She invented the lotion herself, and its efficacy is shown by her marvelous complexion. Her daughter-in-law, the Princess Rural of Roumania, is very fond of perfume and white heliotrope.

The soap which ex-Queen Christine of Spain uses is specially made in Spain, and has the strange name of "Walerat." The toilet water she uses is also made in Spain. Its chief ingredients are rose water and extract of coconut. Before the Spanish-American war she used nothing but ylang-ylang, a perfume from the Philippines.

About twenty years ago there was attached to the German Kaiser's military staff certain officer, a Mr. von Benckes, who was somewhat of a dandy. He was in the habit of patronizing a hairdresser in the arcade that connects the Kaiser's palace and the Hotel de Ville.

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Accordingly, he gave instructions to Herr Haby that his mustache should be trimmed in some entirely novel way. Now, Herr Haby was a man of original ideas, and soon his own mustache began pointing ferociously upward toward his eyes. If von Benckes was delighted with the effect, he was even more so when the Emperor William himself noticed it in the procession, and congratulated him at the royal banquet which followed, at the same time inquiring the name of the barber who was responsible for this striking effect.

von Benckes gave the required information, and no more was said on the subject; but some days afterward the good Herr Haby was astonished one morning to receive the command for his attendance at the royal schloss.

Upon arrival there he was conducted to the Kaiser's private apartments, where Wilhelm himself awaited him and ordered him to operate upon the Emperor's mustache in a way to turn it out much in the same style as he had von Benckes's.

The man got to work, while the Kaiser chatted in a most friendly way, and, when, at the end of a quarter of an hour, the Emperor consulted his looking-glass, he declared himself greatly pleased with the result, and evidently satisfied that it suited his face and appearance, gave the delighted barber the position of court hairdresser.

Herr Haby quickly settled down to his new work and soon thereafter he and his wife were married. Herr Haby's mustache is now generally in use all over the world.

This took the form of a piece of silk gauze about ten inches long opening out from two inches in width at the middle to about four inches at each end, and held in position over the mustache by two elastic bands attached to the ends and worn round the ears.

The German Emperor's toilette de mustache each morning is very much as follows:  
After the mustache has been washed and trimmed it is well brushed up in the direction of the eye. Then the hairbrush is used to put on the Kaiser wears for about twenty minutes; and when this is removed the hairs are found pressed out flat against the royal cheeks.

Almost every hair is then separately curled, which produces that "buffy" appearance at the ends that is so noticeable in the German mustache.

This soon sets the fashion, and now the Kaiser's mustache is worn by every officer in the German army, and, indeed, is their distinctive feature.

As for Herr Haby, he has prospered exceedingly. Besides being the most sought-after man at the Berlin court, since the nature of his occupation gives him greater opportunities for conversation with his imperial majesty and for requests for small favors, he earns a large salary, and proudly wears many

## STATESMEN, REAL AND NEAR.

By FRED C. KELLY.

A stranger entered the office of Representative William S. Reynolds, of Philadelphia, who broke a lot of youngest Congressman records by landing in the lower House last spring at the age of twenty-eight.

The visitor was a highly polished black frock coat, talked with a Bostonese accent and looked as if he might be a tape worm doctor, or a professor of botany.

It seemed that he belonged to some society for psychological research and Reynolds's case had appealed to him. He introduced himself and then began to ply the Congressman with questions.

"You know your multiplication table by the time you were a year and a half old, I presume?" he suggested.

"Oh, certainly," said Reynolds, deeming it wise to humor the fellow and avoid a scene.

"And at what age had you mastered Latin grammar?" pursued the investigator. "Five years, perhaps?"

"Somewhere around there," nodded Reynolds.

"And as you grew older," went on the visitor, "that is, when you got to be nine or ten years of age, which of your college studies appealed to you most?"

At first the man's talk had been merely funny, but now it looked serious and Reynolds became nervous. There was no telling at what moment the visitor might become violent.

"Why, what are you getting at?" asked Reynolds, directing the director on his drum and turned to the page where it says he was born in 1882 and was graduated from Yale in 1894. It was the first time his attention had been called to the mystery. The latter date should have read 1894.

Senator Nixon, of Nevada, invited a squad of celebrities out to his home one evening to meet a celebrated artist who was in Washington to paint Nixon's portrait for which service, by the way, he was to be paid enough money to buy a brace of plush-lined automobiles. Among the guests was Samuel G. Blythe, Nixon led Sam over to meet the celebrated artist, and the two shook hands

orders that have been conferred upon him by foreign monarchs who visited the palace and were attended by him, some of which, besides the German Cross of Jerusalem, are the Russian Order of St. Stanislaus, the Knight's Cross of the Prussian Empire, the Turkish Silver Medal of Merit, the Turkish Nishan Medjidie, and others.

PLANSIE.  
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### THE ARMY AS AN ASSET.

**Simmons Plan Destined to Meet Sturdy Opposition.**  
From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Secretary of War Simmons, following the report of the general staff of the army, has decided to begin the reorganization of the military establishment along the lines suggested in his annual report, looking toward the absorption of the scattered army posts and the concentration of the troops in large groups. Some sixteen or eighteen posts have already been marked for elimination and most of the present fortifications are to be gradually abandoned if this program is carried out. It is true that about \$5,000,000 has been spent on existing posts, now mostly pronounced to be obsolete, and representing a maximum of original cost and a maximum of maintenance expense, which actually retarding the development of the army.

For, as the Secretary has said, we have scattered the army over the country as if it were a local constabulary instead of a national organization, limiting its training to small units and leaving the larger movements that would be required in war to theory.

However, this argument may strike the country as a whole, the Secretary is not likely to find it easy to secure the necessary legislation from Congress. Congressmen, or such of them as have army posts in their neighborhoods, will be forced to consider the army as a local rather than a national institution, a fact that the Secretary had in mind when he observed that the source of profit which each post furnishes to neighboring communities causes a local pressure against any change in location and brings constant influence to bear for further expenditures in that locality. And since the true actual change and annual expenditures, what is it likely to be in regard to this proposal not merely for change or reduction, but for the removal of the military profit? Will Congress regard the army as a national or a local asset?

**What If It Should Happen?**  
From the Chattanooga Times.

"Suppose there should be a spontaneous uprising at Chicago for Roosevelt and the same sort of a panic at Baltimore for Bryan, what would 'business' do?" asks a country neighbor. Go out of business for a while at least, until the panic was over and the people returned to their senses. But fortunately both of these misfortunes will